Today's News - Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Heathcote hopes Eastern Europe finds its own identity beyond tall, glass, "very oddly-shaped skyscrapers" with "increasingly urbane architecture" by young designers. — Hobart, Australia, losing patience with slow/no movement to revitalize its waterfront (who did win the design competition?). — Cleveland's waterfront could be in for some big changes (and not good ones if not done right). — Perhaps they should both take cues from San Francisco's Ferry Building; five years later, King finds it "a lesson in what urban renewal should be." — Heathcote on airports: Heathrow's T5, an "an antitote to the tired, bodged surroundings," and Beijing, a "seductive vision of how airports could be." — JetBlue's T5 at JFK designed from the ground up for a post-9/11 world. — Theater building boom may not be the Bilbao blessing everyone wishes for. — Aedas scores twin towers for Abu Dhabi. — An oasis of public art for Las Vegas. — The connecting thread in Portland's renaissance is design - and it's home-grown talent. — Robin Hood Gardens is a "beautiful" work of art, says Lord Rogers - so why won't he visit? — Mayne's Cooper Union project is "not a one-idea building." — Hadid x 2: both visit her London flat (Lynn Barber would rather live in her car - a Beemer, what else?). — Architects shouldn't be burdened by leadership - they "should leave the mucky bits to others." — Jones wonders why architects have to prove their worth. — A call to fix AICP continuing education program (AIA offers a good model). — Call for entries: AIA/UK 2008 Excellence in Design Awards. — 2nd BusinessWeek/Architectural Record "Good Design is Good Business" China Award winners announced.

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Eastern Europe redefines its identity: The new wave of architecture...is as wildly variable...as that anywhere else in the world...being used as a simplistic branding device...The hope for an increasingly urbane architecture lies with the young designers...In the meantime, expect lots of glass and very tall, very oddly-shaped skyscrapers. By Edwin Heathcote -- SOM; NBBJ; Foster + Partners; RMJM; Tamas Nagy; Erick van Egeraat; YRM; Sadar Vuga; - Financial Times (UK)

Anger over \$6m waterfront revamp inaction: Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority (SCWA)...seemed to have achieved little besides running a design contest...nothing had happened yet to revitalise Hobart's "jewel in the crown"- Mercury News (Australia)

The Port of Cleveland's big move east could trigger a lakefront land rush: ...would free up much of the downtown lakefront for future development...[could] create a private, gate-controlled corporate enclave next to the mouth of the Cuyahoga River and other prime sites on the downtown waterfront. By Steven Litt- Cleveland Plain Dealer

Ferry Building looking better than ever: ...while it's easy to scoff at the frills...the architectural and urban design basics still shine...a lesson in what urban renewal should be. By John King — Page & Turnbull; SMWM; BCV Architects [images]- San Francisco Chronicle

Antidote to bodged surroundings: Heathrow Terminal 5 has had a truly elephantine gestation...overall T5 is a triumph – intelligent, elegant, airy, functional – an antidote to the tired, bodged terminals around it...Beijing is a seductive vision of how airports could be, if space and planning inquiries were not an issue. By Edwin Heathcote – Rogers Stirk Harbour & Partners (Richard Rogers Partnership); Foster + Partners [video link]- Financial Times (UK)

An Airline Terminal for a Security-Wary Era: From the moment that passengers first arrive at JetBlue Airways' \$750 million Terminal 5 at Kennedy International Airport in September, they will face an unmistakably post-9/11 world. — Eero Saarinen; Gensler; DMJM Harris/Aecom; Arup; William Nicholas Bodouva & Associates [slide show]- New York Times

Enter the Boosters, Bearing Theaters: In recent years many of the 75 companies that form the League of Resident Theaters have joined what amounts to a nonprofit theatrical building boom. -- KieranTimberlake; Jean Nouvel; Bing Thom; Rem Koolhaas [images]- New York Times

Aedas unveils twin towers for Abu Dhabi: ...competition-winning designs for the Abu Dhabi Investment Council Headquarters. [images]- The Architects' Journal (UK)

In the Land of Glitter and Gambling, Plans for an Oasis of Art: ...celebrated artists are the headliners of an ambitious \$40 million public arts program initiated by MGM Mirage... -- Maya Lin; Claes Oldenburg/Coosje van Bruggen; Daniel Libeskind; Rafael Viñoly; Norman Foster; Pelli Clarke Pelli [slide show]- New York Times

Dreamers + Builders: The key players on Portland's architecture scene: The connecting thread in this renaissance is design...But things weren't always so rosy... -- Zimmer Gunsul Frasca (ZGF): Holst Architecture; Cloepfil/Allied Works Architecture; John Holmes; William Neburka; Carrie Schilling; Jeff Kovel; Ziba Design; Robert Thompson; Heinz Rudolf; TVA Architects; BOORA- The Oregonian

Why won't architect Lord Rogers pay us a visit in grim estate he wants preserved?...for Britain's leading architect, Robin Hood Gardens in East London is a "beautiful" work of art...it appears the peer's love of the sink estate doesn't extend to spending an evening there, to experience what life is like for its 400 residents, who have overwhelmingly voted for their homes to be torn down.- This is London (UK)

Shaking Up The Status Quo At Cooper Union: "It's not a one-idea building"... -- Thom Mayne/Morphosis- New York Sun

The world's best female architect is sought - after everywhere - except Britain. Why? I'm not part of that boys' network'. Lynn Barber meets the hugely talented Zaha

Hadid...Given the choice, I would far rather live in her car than her flat...- Observer (UK)

Zaha Hadid: the Clerkenwell home of a superstar architect: One of the world's most innovative architects is far too busy to do up her London flat- The Times (UK)

Architects burdened by leadership: ...pleaded a lone voice at the Architects for Health Reform Club Debate..."architects should leave the mucky bits to others and focus on integrating the art of architecture with the science of engineering"... - Arup; Anshen + Allen; Stefian Bradley Architects; MAAP Architects- HD/Hospital Development magazine (UK)

Why must architects prove their worth? The Kaufmann Desert House - now for sale at Christie's - is a modernist work of art. Why does the art world think it is just a home? By Jonathan Jones — Richard Neutra (1946)- Guardian (UK)

Op-Ed: AICP's Continuing Education Program Needs To Be Fixed: The new continuing education program set up by the American Planning Association's American Institute of Certified Planners is an unfair system...predatory, confiscatory, unfair and inequitable...We offer an alternative- PLANetizen

Call for entries: AIA/UK 2008 Excellence in Design Awards; open to UK-based architects for projects anywhere in the world, architects anywhere in the world for projects in the UK, and students enrolled in UK universities; deadline: April 16-American Institute of Architects/UK

2nd BusinessWeek/Architectural Record "Good Design is Good Business" China Awards: ...will be honored at a ceremony in Shanghai on May 23... -- David Chipperfield/ZTUDI; Urbanus Architecture & Design; I.M. Pei/Pei Partnership; AREP VILLE; Atelier Z+; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); EDAW; Arup/Aedas; J. J. Pan & Partners; etc. [link to images]- McGraw-Hill Construction

OMA/Office for Metropolitan Architecture: Netherlands Embassy in Berlin

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